

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Schaller, et al.

Examiner: Nguyen, Tuan Van

Serial No.: 10/672,009

Group Art Unit: 3731

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Docket No.: P0022022.00

Title: SURGICAL CONNECTION APPARATUS AND METHODS

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

MS After Final
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed May 12, 2009. A one-month extension of time is being filed concurrently herewith thereby moving the due date for response to September 12, 2009. A Request for Continued Examination as well as an Information Disclosure Statement also accompany this Amendment.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of the claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.